

Louisiana Hurricane DNA Identification Effort

Forensic Co-op



What is the Forensic Co-op

Group of individuals who meet the following criteria:

- **Qualified Forensic Employees from certified laboratories**
- **Interest in preparedness training for mass fatality incidents**
- **Ability to devote time to come aid in the identification process**
- **Willingness to work as a team**
- **Share expertise**

Goals

- Provide Louisiana with experienced DNA Forensic analysts to assist in the hurricane Katrina identification efforts
- Provide the participants with transportation, lodging and per diem while working on site in Baton Rouge
- Provide participants with guidance, over-site and written materials
- Provide participants with new training experiences to take back to their own agencies
- To afford each participant the opportunity for networking and team building within their own ranks as well as with all others on site, to work toward preparing teams for the next incident
- Allow each participant to see what precipitated the incident

Who Participated in the Co-op

Participants included those with:

- Many years of experience
- Only a few years of experience
- Those who have already worked a mass fatality
- Several recently retired

What Agencies Were Represented

- OCME – NYC
- Ohio – BCI
- Orange County SO – Coroner (CA)
- Kentucky SP – CL
- Missouri SHP – CL
- Iowa SP - CI
- OCME – Delaware
- Colorado DPS – CBI
- Arizona DPS – CL
- Washington SP – CL
- Florida SP – CL
- Johnson Co. SO – Mission, KS
- CAL-DOJ _ DNA Lab

Possible Forensic Analyst Co-op Tasks

- Pedigree Validation
- DNA Data Review
- DNA data simulation
- VIP (Victim Identification Program) Collection
- Cataloging additional DNA personal items required
- Inter – team training
- Working on procedural documents
- Special projects that were born out of this experience

Proposed

Continuing Educational Opportunity

- 2 one week long training workshop to offer a broader overview of all tasks involved in the manning of a FAC
- With special attention to the DNA identification effort
- Another opportunity to work as a team

Thank You